

**- PUBLIC MEETING -  
Hope Select Board  
Meeting at 5:30 p.m.  
September 10, 2024  
Hope Town Office**

**-AGENDA-**

Call to Order:

Agenda Adjustments/Approval:

Public Comment (*Please limit comments to 2-3 minutes*):

Minutes:

- August 27, 2024:

Warrants #'s:

New Business:

- Morey Hill Cemetery Discussion and Concerns – Hope Angier:

Old Business:

Other Business:

Town Administrator Report:

Executive Session:

- 1 M.R.S. §405 (6)(A)(1) Personnel Matter:

Adjournment:

**MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**Hope Select Board**  
**August 27, 2024**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**Hope Town Office**

**Board Members Present:**

- Sarah Ann Smith, Charlie Weidman, Wayne Luce and Crystal Robinson

**Others Present:**

- Samantha Mank, Ellery Bane, and Gordon Page

**Call to Order:**

- The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Sarah.

**Agenda Adjustments/Approval:**

- Charlie made a motion to approve the agenda as written. It was seconded by Crystal.  
**Motion passed 4-0**

**Board of Assessors:**

- Suspend as Select Board/Convene as Board of Assessors: Charlie made a motion to suspend as the Select Board and convene as the Board of Assessors at 5:32 p.m. It was seconded by Wayne.  
**Motion passed 4-0**
- FY25 Tax Commitment: Charlie made a motion to set the FY 2025 mil rate at 19.30 and sign the Certificate of Assessment, Assessors Certification of Assessment, Municipal Tax Assessment warrant, and Certificate of Commitment. It was seconded by Wayne.  
**Motion passed 4-0**
- Adjourn as Board of Assessors/Reconvene as Select Board: Charlie made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Assessors and reconvene as the Select Board at 5:43 p.m. It was seconded by Crystal.  
**Motion passed 4-0**

**Public Comment:**

- Gordon Page wanted to introduce himself and announce that he is running as an unenrolled independent candidate for region 3 of the Knox County Commissioners. He served on the Owls Head Select Board and as interim County Administrator. He would appreciate votes from Hope residents.

**Minutes:**

- August 13, 2024: Charlie made a motion to approve the 8/13/24 minutes as written. It was seconded by Crystal.  
**Motion passed 4-0**

**Warrants 12, 13, 14, 15, & 16:**

- Charlie made a motion to approve and sign the Treasurers and Payroll warrants 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16. It was seconded by Wayne.  
**Motion passed 4-0**

New Business:

- None

Old Business:

- None

Other Business:

- Crystal asked if there could be a time of brainstorming as a Town to help promote healthy families. She is concerned that unhealthy lifestyles will bankrupt Hope residents. After some discussion, the Select Board authorized Crystal to do some preliminary fact finding and research on how the Town can help make children and families healthier.
- Charlie asked if the Town should actually seek to leave School Union 69 and attempt to assimilate into the Camden or Union school districts as a way of reducing the budget. No action was taken.

Town Administrator's Report:

- Gusco has been working on the laptops to make sure everyone can access their documents and other necessary items.
- Maine Municipal Association offers risk reduction grants up to \$3,000 for municipalities that participate in the property and casualty insurance pool. I would like to apply for a grant that meets the programs criteria.
- Pam filed the FY 2024 tax liens on Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The validation referendum for the HES budget was held on Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. The budget passed 93-52.
- I received an email from Patrick Polky, the Knox County Sheriff. He gave an update regarding the County's day-to-day management while the County Administrator's position remains in limbo.
- Shani and I did not meet with the School Union 69 Finance Team as planned. The meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be reviewing the FY24 fourth quarter financials. In addition, we will be discussing processes for FY25 and access to the school's new software. We will develop a realistic plan to ensure the FY24 audit can happen in a timely manner and hopefully not delay the annual town meeting again.
- Mid Coast Solid Waste Board of Directors have a meeting tomorrow evening, August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Camden Town Office, French Conference Room at 6:30 p.m.
- North East Ambulance has not set a date yet regarding meeting in lieu of the Performance Review Committee. The last invitation was declined by Rockport, and Camden didn't respond.
- There were 2 building permits, and 3 plumbing permits issued since the 7/13/24 Select Board meeting.
  - Tom Catalano                      24 Heritage Ln                      Single Family Dwelling
  - Rick Catalano                      22 Heritage Ln                      Convert garage to living space
- There are 37 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2024, totaling \$69,794.99. Unpaid 2024 real estate taxes will automatically be foreclosed on February 20, 2026, if those accounts are not paid in full.

- There are 11 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2023, totaling \$28,719.81. Unpaid 2023 real estate taxes will automatically be foreclosed on February 1, 2025, if those accounts are not paid in full.

**Adjournment:**

- Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. It was seconded by Wayne.  
**Motion Passed 4-0**

DRAFT

**From:** Hope  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024 10:00 AM  
**To:** hopera@tidewater.net  
**Subject:** photo cemetery



Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

 Virus-free [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** Hope  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 6, 2024 2:42 PM  
**To:** hopera@tidewater.net  
**Subject:** FW: cemetery conversations

Below are copies of emails between Hope Angier and Beth Gindel re: Morey Hill Cemetery

HOPE ANGIER TO BETH GINDEL, MAY 17, 2024

Hi Beth: It is my understanding that you now have a plot plan based on all your waypoints for the Morey Hill cemetery. I also believe that you are purchasing markers from a vendor in New Hampshire to permanently replace all the sticks and flags. Can you make these replacements by fall? It will be very nice to have the cemetery back to its historic, natural state. Thanks, Hope

BETH GINDEL TO HOPE ANGIER, MAY 30, 2024

Good morning, Hope. Yes, we have the unmarked graves with waypoints, no map however. We were going to purchase plot markers from a company in New Hampshire, yes. However the company suffered a major fire that destroyed their factory. We are currently trying to find another company that isn't going to cost 3 times as much as we had anticipated. As mentioned to you numerous times before the plot markers are not to replace the white stakes. The plot markers are to identify the grave on a spreadsheet with a set of numbers.

The stakes are to acknowledge that someone is buried there, the same as a headstone. Once a grave has been identified and marked with a stake or headstone it is illegal to remove said marker or headstone without replacing it with a more suitable memorial. What we have done with the stakes was the quickest and most cost effective action we could do until there is more funds available to do a headstone. Until that time, the stakes will remain as they are. Even after the plot pins have been installed.

Historically speaking, graves were marked in the past with wooden stakes or crosses, we chose to be non-denominational, out of respect of not knowing who is buried, otherwise you could have been seeing white crosses. Other instances, graves were marked with wooden planks or boards with their names carved in the wood. All of these could have been what was used in this cemetery for those who didn't have money to afford purchasing a headstone.

The work will be done when we are able to do it, it will take time, volunteers and funding to complete. We are doing our best to save and preserve this cemetery and honor our citizens that make our town what it is today, and by not acknowledging them is a disgrace!

Beth

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

by Lisa Van Liefde | Apr 4, 2018 | Antique Granite Cobblestone | 2 comments



**Title 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS**  
**Chapter 13: PUBLIC RECORDS AND PROCEEDINGS**  
Subchapter 1: FREEDOM OF ACCESS

## §405. Executive sessions

Those bodies or agencies falling within this subchapter may hold executive sessions subject to the following conditions. [PL 1975, c. 758 (NEW).]

**1. Not to defeat purposes of subchapter.** An executive session may not be used to defeat the purposes of this subchapter as stated in [section 401 \(./1/title1sec401.html\)](#).

[PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

**2. Final approval of certain items prohibited.** An ordinance, order, rule, resolution, regulation, contract, appointment or other official action may not be finally approved at an executive session.

[PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

**3. Procedure for calling of executive session.** An executive session may be called only by a public, recorded vote of 3/5 of the members, present and voting, of such bodies or agencies.

[PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

**4. Motion contents.** A motion to go into executive session must indicate the precise nature of the business of the executive session and include a citation of one or more sources of statutory or other authority that permits an executive session for that business. Failure to state all authorities justifying the executive session does not constitute a violation of this subchapter if one or more of the authorities are accurately cited in the motion. An inaccurate citation of authority for an executive session does not violate this subchapter if valid authority that permits the executive session exists and the failure to cite the valid authority was inadvertent.

[PL 2003, c. 709, §1 (AMD).]

**5. Matters not contained in motion prohibited.** Matters other than those identified in the motion to go into executive session may not be considered in that particular executive session.

[PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

**6. Permitted deliberation.** Deliberations on only the following matters may be conducted during an executive session:

A. Discussion or consideration of the employment, appointment, assignment, duties, promotion, demotion, compensation, evaluation, disciplining, resignation or dismissal of an individual or group of public officials, appointees or employees of the body or agency or the investigation or hearing of charges or complaints against a person or persons subject to the following conditions:



- (1) An executive session may be held only if public discussion could be reasonably expected to cause damage to the individual's reputation or the individual's right to privacy would be violated;
- (2) Any person charged or investigated must be permitted to be present at an executive session if that person so desires;
- (3) Any person charged or investigated may request in writing that the investigation or hearing of charges or complaints against that person be conducted in open session. A request, if made to the agency, must be honored; and
- (4) Any person bringing charges, complaints or allegations of misconduct against the individual under discussion must be permitted to be present.

This paragraph does not apply to discussion of a budget or budget proposal; [PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

B. Discussion or consideration by a school board of suspension or expulsion of a public school student or a student at a private school, the cost of whose education is paid from public funds, as long as:

- (1) The student and legal counsel and, if the student is a minor, the student's parents or legal guardians are permitted to be present at an executive session if the student, parents or guardians so desire; [PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

C. Discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition or the use of real or personal property permanently attached to real property or interests therein or disposition of publicly held property or economic development only if premature disclosures of the information would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the body or agency; [PL 1987, c. 477, §3 (AMD).]

D. Discussion of labor contracts and proposals and meetings between a public agency and its negotiators. The parties must be named before the body or agency may go into executive session. Negotiations between the representatives of a public employer and public employees may be open to the public if both parties agree to conduct negotiations in open sessions; [PL 1999, c. 144, §1 (RPR).]

E. Consultations between a body or agency and its attorney concerning the legal rights and duties of the body or agency, pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers and matters where the duties of the public body's or agency's counsel to the attorney's client pursuant to the code of professional responsibility clearly conflict with this subchapter or where premature general public knowledge would clearly place the State, municipality or other public agency or person at a substantial disadvantage; [PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

F. Discussions of information contained in records made, maintained or received by a body or agency when access by the general public to those records is prohibited by statute; [PL 1999, c. 180, §1 (AMD).]

G. Discussion or approval of the content of examinations administered by a body or agency for licensing, permitting or employment purposes; consultation between a body or agency and any entity that provides examination services to that body or agency regarding the content of an examination; and review of examinations with the person examined; and [PL 1999, c. 180, §2 (AMD).]

H. Consultations between municipal officers and a code enforcement officer representing the municipality pursuant to [Title 30-A, section 4452, subsection 1, paragraph C \(./30-A/title30-Asec4452.html\)](https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/1/title1sec4452.html) in the

**prosecution of an enforcement matter pending in District Court when the consultation relates to that pending enforcement matter.** [PL 1999, c. 180, §3 (NEW).]

[PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1975, c. 758 (RPR). PL 1979, c. 541, §A3 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 477, §§2,3 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 769, §A1 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 40, §§1,2 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 144, §1 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 180, §§1-3 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 709, §1 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 240, §2 (AMD).

The Revisor's Office cannot provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public.  
If you need legal advice, please consult a qualified attorney.

[Office of the Revisor of Statutes \(mailto:webmaster\\_ros@legislature.maine.gov\)](mailto:webmaster_ros@legislature.maine.gov) · 7 State House Station · State House Room 108 · Augusta, Maine 04333-0007

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